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SELIGSEN FREED; NO EVIDENCE TO HOLD HIM IN 'WAR PLOT' AFFAIR

Witnesses Tell Varying Stories
and Give Different Descriptions of "Hawkshaw"

Because of lack of evidence, the federal officials yesterday dropped their case against W. R. Seligsen, proprietor of the New York Dress Company, who was charged with complicity in an alleged plot to recruit local U. S. soldiers for the armies of the Allies.

The next development in the case, in which only one man, Guy D. Randell, is now involved, may be the discovery of proof that the person who signed the name "J. L. Hawkshaw" to a check for \$140, which was to be used to purchase the discharge of a 4th Cavalry corporal, is the same person who signed the name "Stein" to a letter purporting to be an offer of a position in Seligsen's store to Cpl. Irvine of the 4th Cavalry.

Other than to say he had offered Randell a position, and that the latter had worked with him for only two days, Seligsen denied all knowledge of the alleged "war plot." He denied that he had written the letter offering Corporal Irvine a position, and declared that he had never signed such a letter with his own or anyone else's name. He knew of not "war plots," he said, and stoutly maintained he had no knowledge of any attempt here to recruit men for the armies of the Allies.

Writing Was Different.
Seligsen was asked to write the words "one hundred and forty" by Commissioner George S. Curry. What he wrote did not correspond with the writing on the letter signed "Stein," nor with the writing on the check signed by "Hawkshaw." What do compare on the two documents, however, are the "F" in "February" on the letter and the "F" in "February" on the check. Both are in the peculiar script type of writing.

Randell, when called to the stand, said he knew Seligsen and that his name was "Stein." He said he had asked Seligsen for a letter offering a position "just so the boy could get out of the army." It wasn't intended, he said, that Cpl. Irvine should go to work. He said that the check for \$140, which was to purchase Irvine's discharge, came from a man named Hawkshaw, who was "a retired Australian farmer."

"Hawkshaw is about the size of Marshal Smiddy," Randell testified. "He was short and had a black mustache. He had no beard. He was staying at the McAna and his wife was with him. The last time I saw him was just before the Carnival. I got the check from him before the Carnival started. He gave it to me so that Irvine could get out of the army and go to Vancouver and enlist."

Accuses Jefferson.
Randell said he had known Seligsen about a week and Hawkshaw about four or five years. He added that T. R. Jefferson, whose case has been dismissed, had promised to put up \$140 to help another soldier, Cpl. J. V. Greelish, out of the army. "I didn't give up my check because Jefferson didn't show up with his money," Randell testified. "The four of us (Randell, Jefferson, Irvine and Greelish) were going to work our passage to Vancouver."

"Did you want Seligsen to cash the check?" Randell was asked. "I didn't intend to get him to cash it," he answered. Randell added that he had found the letter signed "Stein" lying on the counter in Seligsen's store. He said he had asked Seligsen for the letter, but had not told him that the corporal was to go to Canada to join the army. Is "Hawkshaw" Real?

Attorney George A. Davis, counsel for Seligsen, wanted to know if "Hawkshaw" was "real." "Certainly," answered Randell. "Are you sure?" urged Davis. "Yes," said Randell. "But Seligsen never knew that such a man as Hawkshaw existed."

Jefferson testified that he had never spoken to Seligsen, but that he had seen him from a distance. He said he knew nothing about Seligsen or "Stein," except what Randell had told him.

His testimony was, in effect, as follows:

"I met Randell four or five weeks ago in Fennell's office. Fennell was going to have us work on some liquor cases. Randell was introduced as Mr. English. English and I had a talk regarding some booze cases.

"Three or four days later we met in police court. He asked me my nationality. I said I was Irish. Before this I had been told that Fennell was suspected of enlisting men for the Allies. Then English was missing for about two weeks.

"I met English again on a Wednesday. That was two weeks ago, at Fort and Hotel streets. He asked me where I was born, and I told him I was born in Dublin, Ireland. He asked me to meet him at the Central fire station that night. I met him, and he wanted to know how I felt about going back and fighting. I said I would like to, but that I was broke. Then he said it could be arranged all right if I wanted to go back.

"Then he asked me if I knew anyone else who wanted to go back, saying that he knew men who would gladly pay their way. I tipped him off to Irvine, who has an English accent. He consulted Carden.

"That night I consulted with Attorney Carden at his home. I told him what I had found out. Carden told me to go to Schofield Barracks with English, saying, 'let him recruit the men and then we'll take hold of it.' I was to act as a detective for the city attorney's office, and was to draw a salary.

"Randell and I went to Schofield. I asked Irvine how he felt about going away. He seemed afraid. I told him I thought it was safe. Then I made

him acquainted with Randell. Then Randell said he would fix things up all right, and later told me that Irvine had fixed things up for another soldier.

Warned Not to Drink.
"This is a careful matter," Randell told me. "Be careful who you talk to and don't drink."

He said that there were a lot of Germans in the place where he lived, and said he would pay my room rent if I would let him stay with me. I said it would be all right. Each night I reported either to Carden or to Attorney Cristy. Randell said he had gotten two checks, each for \$140, from a friend named Hawkshaw."

Jefferson was asked to describe "Hawkshaw." He said that the person pointed out to him by Randell as being the purported check-signer was "a tall man with gray whiskers, about 50 years old."

The witness said he understood that Seligsen was to cash the checks, but that he had had no conversation with the latter.

Cpl. Greelish said, in part, that Randell took him around to Seligsen's store, Randell saying that Seligsen was to cash the checks. He added that Randell told him that Seligsen was "going out to get the money."

"I didn't want to buy out of the army," the corporal declared. "I was curious and wanted to catch Randell." Marshal Watched Them.
Marshal J. J. Smiddy testified as to having watched Jefferson and Randell for several days prior to their arrest last Sunday. He had received information, he said, that Lewis Beliveau, husband of "Princess" Thersa, had been asked to enlist with the Allies, but had refused. The marshal declared that he was given no assistance in the case by the city attorney's office.

Seligsen was called to the stand and examined very briefly. Commissioner Curry stated that there was hardly sufficient evidence to warrant holding Seligsen, and dismissed the case.

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BORN.

KAUHAHA—In Honolulu, February 28, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Kauaha, of 1661 Kalaheua avenue, a daughter.

SEU—In Honolulu, February 28, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Sen Akui, of Wai-kamilo road, Palama, a daughter.

MARRIED.

WEBB-FLORES—In Honolulu, February 28, 1916, Ignatius O. Webb and Mrs. Juana Flores, Rev. Father Rodriguez Frans, of the Catholic Cathedral, officiating. Witnesses—Incar-nation Ortiz and Santa Ortiz.

POEPOE-LALAOIS—In Honolulu, February 28, 1916, Gulstan K. Poe-poe and Mrs. Kenechulani Kimo E. Lalaois, Elder Gilbert J. Waller, of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, officiating. Witnesses—Nicholas Nakai and Adeline Awa.

SUGAKOFF-BARINA—In Honolulu, February 26, 1916, Luis Sugakoff and Miss Augusta Filinoff Barmina, Rev. J. Korshinsky, Russian Orthodox priest, officiating.

DIED.

PUU—In the Queen's Hospital, February 23, 1916, Samuel Pua, of Haki-puu, Oahu, married, quarry worker, a native of Hawaii, 33 years old.

KAUHAHA—In Honolulu, February 29, 1916, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Kauaha, of 1661 Kalaheua avenue, two days old.

The meeting house in Bolton, Mass., is to be reshingled for the first time since its erection in 1793. Some of the shingles are still in perfect state of preservation after 131 years' service.

Masonic Temple

Weekly Calendar

MONDAY—
Oceanic Lodge No. 371, stated, 7:30 p. m.

TUESDAY—
Honolulu Lodge No. 409, special, Second Degree, 7:30 p. m.

WEDNESDAY—
Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, special, Third Degree, 7:30 p. m.

THURSDAY—
Scottish Rite bodies, 5 p. m.

FRIDAY—
Oceanic Lodge No. 371, special, First Degree, 7:30 p. m.

SATURDAY—
Aloha Temple No. 1, A. A. O. N. M. S., stated, 7:30 p. m.

SCHOFIELD LODGE

WEDNESDAY—
SATURDAY—

HONOLULU LODGE NO. 1, MODERN ORDER OF PHOENIX

Will meet at their home, corner of Beretania and Fort streets, every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock.
CHARLES HUSTACE, JR., Leader
FRANK MURRAY, Secretary

HONOLULU LODGE, 616, S. P. O. E.
meets in their hall on King St., near Fort, every Friday evening. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend.
O. J. MCCARTHY, E. R.
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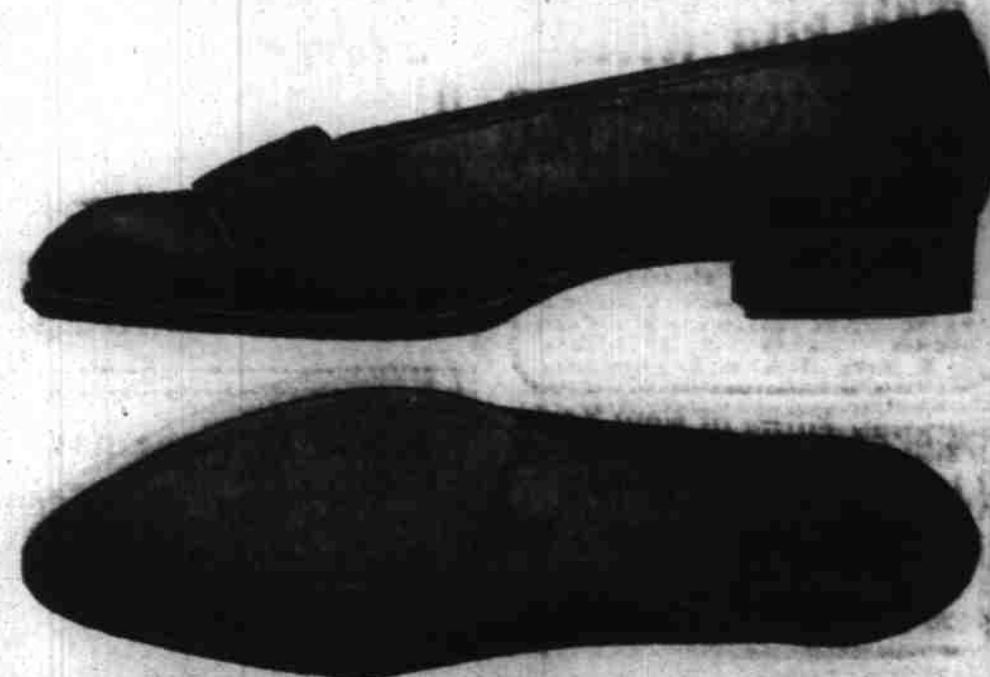
Meetings in K. of P. Hall on Saturdays:
February 12, March 11, April 8, May 6, June 3, July 1.
PAUL R. ISENBERG, President.
C. BOLTE, Secretary.
4274—Jan. 12 to July 1 incl

FEBRUARY RAINFALL
3.22 INCHES; MORE
BY .60 THAN NORMAL

Only 3.22 inches of rain fell in Honolulu during February, according to the records of the U. S. weather bureau's local office today. This is .60 of an inch more than the average for February recorded for the last 11 years, 2.62 inches.

Last night a trace of precipitation fell, and in the Maunaloa valley and Makiki sections there was a brief shower.

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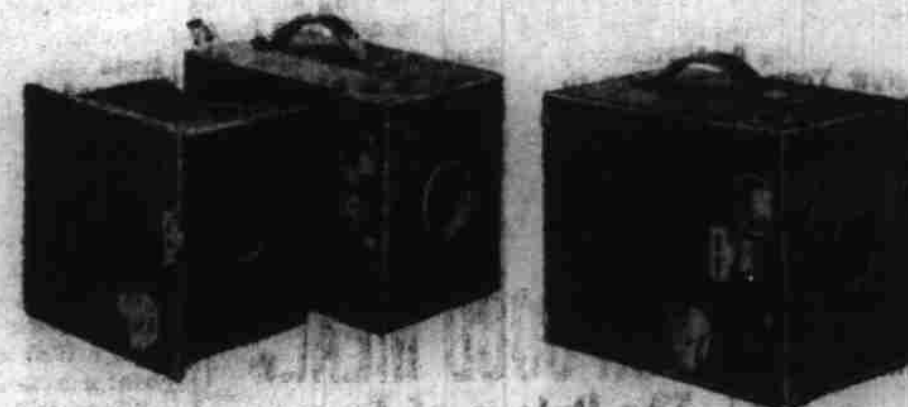
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